

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 722

By Ford S

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jim Claborn on his selection as Hamblen County 6th-8th Grade Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Jim Claborn is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Claborn has recently been selected Hamblen County Teacher of the Year in the 6-8 grade division, an honor most befitting his outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence he has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Jim received his bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee, and is well respected among his eighth grade students and peers alike for his dedication to the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, he has served with acumen as a social studies teacher for twenty-seven remarkable years; and

WHEREAS, Jim Claborn is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, he is a local celebrity writer and expert on Davy Crockett, holding positions as a consultant, writer or actor of 25 films and television projects of local reference, including The Today Show, the Last of the Mohicans, Disney's Camp Davy Crockett, A&E's Biography, and the Heartland Series among others, with many of the projects featuring Hamblen County students; and

WHEREAS, Jim has served with industry as president of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, and continues to serve the APTA as historian; and

WHEREAS, he has written "Back When" for the local newspaper, the *Citizen Tribune*, for 16 years, and co-authored the book entitled "A Pictorial History of Hamblen County", a gathering of history and photos; proceeds from the sale of the book benefited local charities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Claborn truly serves as an inspiration to his colleagues and students alike, and his friendship and counsel is highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, in paying tribute to Jim and two other division honorees, Hamblen County Director of Schools Dr. Dale Lynch appropriately stated, "They already are winners because of what they contribute to the school system every day"; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Mr. Claborn is an avid storyteller and is frequently asked to present at local fairs, churches, civic clubs, and schools; and

WHEREAS, he epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest level of public service and quality education for all, and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Mr. Jim Claborn on his selection as Hamblen County 6th-8th Grade Teacher of the Year, commend his exceptional service to the young people of Tennessee, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.